

Volume 8 | Issue 5









May 9th, 2016

May Designated as "Parents Who Host Lose the Most" Month

On April 26th, 2016, at Supervisor Cook's request, the Board of Supervisors designated the month of May as "Parents Who Host, Lose the Most" Month in Fairfax County. The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County, an independent nonprofit organization with more than 60 collaborative partners, has led this campaign to help significantly reduce illegal alcohol use by minors. "It is so sad that every spring, as we celebrate graduations and we celebrate proms, we also have to mourn the death of our youth" Supervisor Cook said during his remarks to the Board.

Data shows that alcohol use by minors can cause physical and mental harm. Underage drinking has been proven to have harmful effects on the brain, which is still growing until the age of 25. Underage drinking is also a major contributor to drunk driving accidents and deaths. Supervisor Cook explained: "It seems to happen every year that there is a party and someone serves alcohol to minors and someone gets in a car and we have a tragedy instead of a celebration. This is 100 percent preventable."

Supervisor Cook has served on Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 2009 and lives in Kings Park with his wife and children

The Campaign has helped reduced 30 day use of alcohol for eighth, children. tenth, and twelfth grade students from nearly 28 percent to 19.2 percent and binge drinking for those grade levels by nearly 5 percent. Still, much work remains to be done.

Help us educate parents on the serious risks associated with underage drinking, and more importantly, the major legal repercussions for breaking the law. If you see a party in your neighborhood where minors are drinking, please call the Police non-emergency number (703-691-2131, TTY 711) you may help save a life. With the help of the community, prom season can be a safe, fun experience for all of our neighbors and students.

Supervisor Cook to Chair the Domestic Violence Prevention Policy Coordinating Council

A member of the Domestic Violence Prevention Policy Coordinating Council (DVPPCC) since January 2013, Supervisor Cook has been an effective advocate for residents across the community. Following the retirement of County Attorney Dave Bobzein, the Council unanimously agreed to appoint Supervisor Cook as its next Chairman. Supervisor Cook has held annual community awareness events every October, and continues to work to support efforts to help victims and hold offenders accountable.

The DVPPCC is a coordinated public-private effort staffed by the Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual Violence. The DVPPCC has a tremendous record of accomplishment such as helping to train medical professionals conduct routine screenings for abuse and violence as well as passing legislation that protects victims and empowers law enforcement. Implementing the lethality assessment program has been another significant achievement of the Council, as well as collecting data to help inform advocacy groups, lawmakers and the community at-large.

It is with great honor Supervisor Cook will accept his new role as the Chair at the July Council meeting. Supervisor Cook looks forward to continuing and advancing the critically important work of the DVPPCC.

Public Safety Committee Meeting May 10

The next Public Safety Committee Meeting will be held Tuesday, May 10th at 10 a.m.. The Board of Supervisors will continue to review the recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. The recommendations of the Communication and Use of Force Subcommittees will be addressed by the Board. The Commonwealth's Attorney, Ray Morrogh, will be in attendance as well as Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) representatives, Police Chief Ed Roessler and Deputy County Executive for Public Safety David Rohrer. If you have specific questions regarding the progress of the implementation of the recommendations, please contact Supervisor Cook's office.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

For over 65 years, Mental Health America and affiliates across the country have led the observance of May as Mental Health Month by reaching millions of people through the media, local events, and screenings. Fairfax County is joining the effort in spreading the word about mental health in order to help reduce the stigma of mental illness.

We often hear the clinical terms used by doctors and other professionals to identify the symptoms of mental illnesses, but if someone hasn't gone through it, would they know how to recognize it? Often, clinical terms don't do justice to what life with a mental illness can be like. We know that two people with the same diagnosis can experience the same symptom and describe it in very different ways. Recognizing the signs of mental illness, and understanding how it can feel for those who have a mental illness, can help us identify when to get help. Mental illnesses are real, recovery is always the goal, and the best means of achieving recovery comes when we are proactive and informed. One major partner in this effort, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has been instrumental in helping those with mental illness. For more information on NAMI, how to recognize mental illness, and how to help those confronting it, visit www.theconnectproject.org or call 603-225-5359.

Braddock District Council Meeting May 11

The next meeting of the Braddock District Council will be this Wednesday, May 11th at 7:30 pm in Braddock Hall. Several important topics will be on the agenda, such as the Treasurer's report and a review of how the elections work, when voting takes place, and how nominees are announced.

The meeting will also discuss a brief history of the Best of Braddock Awards and a summary of last year's award winners. To submit a nomination for the Best of Braddock Award, click here.

Nominations must be submitted by June 1st, 2016.

Little River Turnpike Bicycling Community Meeting

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation will host a community meeting to discuss ways to improve bicycling along Little River Turnpike from the City of Fairfax to Alexandria. The purpose of the meeting is to gather information from the public on existing conditions, problem locations, and shortand long-term improvements that could make bicycling viable in this corridor. The meeting will be held at **Annandale Terrace Elementary School**, 7604 Herald St., Annandale, on Tuesday, May 17, at 6:30 p.m.

Slow Down to Get Around Event

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program hosted a countywide education initiative regarding the importance of HB 1649, the Slow-Down-to-Get-Around law that Governor McAuliffe

signed in 2015. This legislation is a safe driving law intended to protect trash truck workers by requiring motorists to change lanes, slow down to at least 10 miles per hour below the posted speed limit, and pass at least two feet to the left of any stationary vehicle that is collecting trash or recycling.

The Slow-Down-to-Get-Around education campaign kick-off event was held at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 9 at the Fairfax County Government Center. Supervisor Cook addressed the audience on the importance of the safe driving law.



Transportation Round-up

Braddock Road Community Meeting Recap

On April 25th, Supervisor Cook, along with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation, hosted a community meeting at Lake Braddock Secondary School on the proposed Braddock Road Multimodal project. More than 200 residents turned out to voice their thoughts and opinions about the project. This study has been directly influenced by comments like those and has changed as a result.

If you were unable to make the meeting, there will still be a number of opportunities to comment throughout the process. You can provide comments here, and view the PowerPoint presentation made on Monday here. Public representation is essential. If you would like to read Supervisor Cook's Recap of the Braddock Road Meeting, click here.

Wakefield Chapel and Danbury Forest Intersections

The left turn lanes going onto both Wakefield Chapel Rd. and Danbury Forest Rd. have recently been extended to allow for longer turning queues. During that process, the left turn lane onto Danbury Forest was closed. The turn has now been reopened, which should help alleviate traffic in the area.

Supervisor Cook has been in discussions with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation and the Virginia Department of Transportation about how to ease traffic levels at that location going forward. Supervisor Cook will keep the community updated of any developments regarding that location.

Volunteers Plant Phase Two of the Meadow at Americana Park.

Recently, the Friends of Accotink Creek (FAC) partnered with the Fairfax **County Stormwater** Planning Division to plant phase two of the meadow at Americana Park. Despite overcast skies and gravelly soil there was good cheer and hardy effort amongst all participants, which included County Master Naturalists, Volunteers for Change, students from Northern Virginia Community College and families seeking community service hours. In advance



of the planting effort, the County ripped away the invasive thorns and shrubs, tilled the compacted soils and seeded the land with native grasses.

Despite the challenge of digging in the gravelly soil, about 30 eager workers each day made short work of planting 1000 pots of native grasses and wildflowers. All were grown specifically for Americana Park by Earth Sangha at their new greenhouse facility available to them through a partnership with Fairfax County Park Authority.

Already the phase one meadow is reducing the amount of standing water after storms. In addition to increasing the water holding capacity of the soil system, this diverse native plant collection will support a wide variety of native pollinators, birds and mammals including the local barn swallow and red shouldered hawk that use the urban constructs (concrete bridges and steel towers) to their advantage. Supervisor Cook was on hand to kick off the event last week.

Free Document Shredding Event

There will be a Document Shredding Event on May 14th at the Kings Park Library from 8 a.m. to Noon. The event is only open to residents of Fairfax County, the Towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Documents from businesses will not be accepted. Residents will drive through a line as directed by staff and will remain in their vehicles as County staff remove boxes from cars and trucks and empty paper into rolling carts.

For additional information, please contact 703-324-5230, TTY 711.

Fairfax County Farmers Markets Open

There will be 11 farmers market locations opening by the end of this week, and customers can look forward to the freshest produce, meats, cheese, baked breads, honey, ice cream, sweets and cut flowers our region has to offer. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) Farmers Markets are unique because they are strictly "producer-only," which means that all vendors must grow or produce everything they bring to market. This provides customers with the unique opportunity to connect directly with farmers, who are eager to answer questions about their growing practices, animal care, recipes and more.

For more information, including locations, directions and a list of vendors at each market go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets, or you may contact the Community Horticulture Office at 703-642-0128.

Heroin in Fairfax County and the Commonwealth

In the United States, sales of opioid painkillers have leveled off since 2011, as have related deaths. However, deaths from heroin overdoses have continued their dramatic rise, along with heroin abuse and dependence. Tragically, Virginia is no exception to these national trends. More Virginians were killed in 2014 by heroin and prescription opioid drug overdose than car crashes. Fairfax County saw 72 deaths from heroin overdoses, and almost 700 reported using heroin in 2015.

These facts are indicative of our responsibility to help prevent these tragic occurrences. Attorney General Mark Herring, recently released *Heroin: The Hardest Hit* a documentary on the heroin and prescription drug epidemic and its effects on Virginians. To watch this powerful documentary, click here.

Drug overdoses are preventable accidents, and through strong partnerships with law enforcement, lawmakers, and community members, we can begin saving the lives of those struggling with the burden of addiction.

Braddock Neighborhood News

Supervisor Cook hosts a monthly television show, Braddock Neighborhood News, on Fairfax County Channel 16 which is available on most cable networks. Each month, Supervisor Cook invites topical

guests on to share pertinent and informative items with the viewers.

Fairfax County is home to the largest Sheriff's Office in the Commonwealth, serving over one million residents. In addition to managing the Adult Detention Center, providing security in the courthouse and serving



civil law processes, the Sheriff's Office is a visible sign of public safety and protection to our citizens. This month's show features Stacey Kincaid who has served for over 28 years and was recently reelected to her second term as Sheriff.

The shows air throughout the month and can be seen Sundays at 5 p.m., Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Fridays at 5 p.m.

Supervisor Cook in the Community

Annual Fairfax County Federation of Citizens
Associations Banquet – On April 3rd, Supervisor
Cook attended the Annual Fairfax County
Federation of Citizens Associations Banquet,

which was held at the Crowne Plaza in Tysons Corner.

Shelter House Breakfast - On April 5th, Supervisor Cook was pleased to attend the

Shelter House Breakfast at the Westwood Country Club.

Volunteer Service Awards - On April 8th, Supervisor Cook attended the Volunteer Service Awards which are hosted by Volunteer Fairfax and highlight exceptional volunteer efforts of Fairfax citizens. This year, the outstanding Braddock Volunteer was Mr. Jim Bertolini.

WAMU Radio Show - On April 8th, Supervisor Cook was a guest on the live WAMU radio show hosted by Kojo Nnamdi. You can watch or listen to the show here.

Kings Park Senior Citizen Luncheon - On April 12th, Supervisor Cook joined the lively senior residents of Kings Park at the restaurant Hunan West for their annual luncheon.

Braddock District Council Meeting - On April 13th, Supervisor Cook attended the Braddock District Council meeting which was held in Braddock Hall. The meeting featured local representatives of the General Assembly who shared their thoughts on the 2016 Session.



Facets Breakfast - On April 14th, Supervisor Cook attended a breakfast that was hosted by Facets and was held at the Fairview Park Marriott.

Opening Day Ceremony for the Annandale
North Springfield Little League - On April 16th,
Supervisor Cook was honored to attend and
throw out the first pitch at the Opening Day



Ceremony for the Annandale North Springfield Little League.

Reston Impact TV show - On April 18th, Supervisor Cook was a guest on the Reston Impact TV show hosted by John Lovaas. They talked about Supervisor Cook's role as Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Korean Community Luncheon - On April 18th, Supervisor Cook attended a luncheon in Annandale where the local Korean Community helped to welcome the new Counsel General of South Korea and introduce him to local elected officials.

Cub Scout Den 11 Meeting - On April 19th, Supervisor Cook attended a meeting of local Cub Scout Den 11. They met at the Commons Community Center in Burke and talked about items as they work towards their Citizenship Badge.

"Stop the Silence, End Sexual Violence" Walk - On April 20th, Supervisor Cook spoke at the beginning of the "Stop the Silence, End Sexual Violence" Walk at the Government Center. He then walked with others to help raise awareness for Sexual and Domestic Violence.



Greater Washington Innovation Awards - On April 21st, Supervisor Cook attended the Greater Washington Innovation Awards which was hosted by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce and was held at the Hyatt Regency in Reston.

Leadership Fairfax Breakfast - On April 22nd, Supervisor Cook took part in the annual Leadership Fairfax Breakfast where new class members interact with the Board of Supervisors in a round table format.

Mason Parent and Family Council – On April 22nd, Supervisor Cook addressed a group of parents of George Mason students and talked about how the Supervisor's Office interacts with the University and the City of Fairfax.

Truro Homeowners Association Annual Meeting - On April 27th, Supervisor Cook was invited to speak to members of the Truro Homeowners Association at their Annual Meeting.

National Press Club Media Event - On April 28th, Supervisor Cook took part in a media event at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. The event covered the Diversion First Program and how local Public Safety Officials are implementing the changes. Later, he attended a ceremony in Tysons Corner for the Fairfax Urban Search and Rescue Team.

Bonnie Brae Elementary School Photo Project

- On April 30th, Supervisor Cook took part in a ceremony to unveil a photo project at Bonnie Brae Elementary School. Large photo tiles of individual faces were placed on the sidewalk to highlight Community Outreach.

Inside Out - A Photography Project by Bonnie Brae Elementary School

On April 30th Bonnie Brae Elementary school participated in the photography/community outreach project Inside Out. It was a tremendous success. About 60 students, teachers and community members had their photograph taken and described what makes a community a safe and happy place.

Inside Out gives everyone the opportunity to share their portrait and make a statement of what they stand for. The students were thrilled and even spoke publically about what makes them proud of

being a part of the Bonnie Brae Community.

Thank you to Bonnie Brae's Principal Kathy Bruce, Assistant Principal Kirstin Bower, Director of the David Pinn Community Center, Ned Barnes, Assistant Commander, West Springfield District Station Lieutenant Eli Cory, and Fairfax County School Board member, Megan McLaughlin, and thanks to everyone else who attended!

E-Cycling Program Available Daily

Fairfax County residents can E-cycle old or unwanted electronics any day of the week at both the I-66 Transfer station and the I-95 Landfill Complex. Acceptable materials include: computer (and related equipment) televisions; gaming systems; stereos and other household electronic devices and cables. There are no fees associated with this service; however, customers may be required to show proof of residency.



I-95 Landfill Complex 9850 Furnace Rd., Lorton Hours: Daily, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

For more information, contact the Solid Waste Management Program at 703-324-5230

Community Connections

AARP Smart Driver Class 5100 Filmore Ave., Alexandria, VA



Saturday, May 14th 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. – lunch and snacks provided Class costs \$15/AARP members (bring AARP card) \$20 nonmembers Call 703-845-5100 to register and for more information

Aging in Place Presentation on Decluttering

Braddock Hall 9002 Burke Lake Road Wednesday, May 18th, 1 p.m.

Shepherd's Center Fairfax/Burke Lunch N' Life

Fairfax Presbyterian Church 10723 main St., Fairfax County Historian Don Hakenson, Civil War in Fairfax County Contact: Faye Quensenberry for reservations 703-620-0161

\$10 per person. Please bring paper products, toiletries and personal items to donate for local area seniors and others in need.

Shepherd's Center of Fairfax/Burke Family Fun Bingo

St. Leo the Great Catholic Church (Parish Center Gym) Saturday, June 11 2016 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax County

All ages welcome – Tickets \$100 each – includes 2 bingo cards that can be played for the entire event, complimentary beverages and snacks.

Godwin Lifetime Learning Institute – Northern Virginia (NOVA) Open House

Ernst Cultural Center

June 1

Northern Virginia Community College – Annandale Campus
Light refreshments served at 9:30 a.m. – meeting begins at 10 a.m.

Volunteer Opportunities

Korean Meals on Wheels needs drivers to deliver meals on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Older adults are not receiving muchneeded nutrition due to a shortage of drivers. Email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711. (Speaking Korean not required.)

The Mott Community Center Senior Program

in Fairfax is looking for a volunteer Tai Chi instructor. Email

VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

The Wakefield Senior Center in Annandale needs Fitness Instructors. Volunteer instructor positions could lead to part-time employment. Email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. Email

VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

Vietnamese Meals on Wheels needs drivers in Annandale to deliver meals midday on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. (Speaking Vietnamese not required.) Email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or call 703-324-5406, TTY 711. Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Land Use Update

Public Hearing Scheduled on Heritage Mall Application

The Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors are now ready to hold public hearings on a proposal to amend the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan for the **Heritage Mall** located at 7857 Heritage Drive, (Tax Map Parcels 70-2((1))1D1, 2A, and 2C), in Annandale. The hearings, which can be viewed on Channel 16, will be held in the Board Auditorium, 12000 Government Center Parkway on the following schedule:

Planning Commission Public Hearing: May 25 at 8:15 PM Board of Supervisors Public Hearing: June 21 at 4:00 PM

This amendment to the Comprehensive Plan would change the language as follows:

<u>Current</u>: Neighborhood and community serving retail center which includes an office component, with an option for mixed use up to 0.70 FAR with retail, office and residential uses.

<u>Proposed</u>: Development of the western portion of the site with 68 single-family attached dwellings and associated residential amenities, as well as the development of a community center on the property, improved pedestrian connectivity, and additional enhancements to the shopping center parking lot and plaza areas.

Copies of the proposed Plan Amendment staff report may be obtained two weeks prior to the Planning Commission public hearing from the Department of Planning and Zoning, 7th Floor, Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia or by visiting http://fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/comprehensiveplan/planamendments.htm.

If you have questions regarding this proposed Plan Amendment, please contact Rosemary Ryan of Supervisor Cook's office (Rosemary.Ryan@fairfaxcounty.gov) or contact DPZ staff coordinator Michael VanAtta (michael.vanatta@fairfaxcounty.gov; 703-324-1229).

If you desire to be placed on the list of speakers for these public hearing(s), please call the following numbers: Planning Commission - (703) 324-2865; Board of Supervisors - (703) 324-3151

Woodglen Dredging/Restoration Project Completed

The Woodglen Lake Dredging and Restoration project was substantially completed on November 18, 2015. This project provided for the removal of 40,000 cubic yards of sediment;

stream restoration above the lake, improving an existing access road to the lake, landscape planting and trail modifications, and constructing a staging area and a 9,000 cubic yard sediment forebay to simplify future dredging operations. The project also made modifications and repairs for the lake's principal spillway and installed new fish habitat structures in the lake.

In January and February the contractor removed sediment from the stream downstream of the lake and undertook remediation in the wetlands area below the dam. In addition to the aesthetic benefits, this project will go a long way towards helping the county meet its goals under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act by keeping sediment and pollutants out of streams that feed the Potomac River. Specifically, it is predicted that this project will provide these annual benefits:

- Total Suspended Solids (TSS) 14.6 tons/year
- Total Nitrogen (TN) 1,075 lbs/year
- Total Phosphorus (TP) 67 lbs/year

